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be expected that the book should be in substance or form a legal treatise. References to decided cases and other authorities are few in number.

In so far, however, as the avowed purpose of the book is to draw attention to issues which might involve the nation in war, it well serves that purpose, for it discusses many subjects of great importance, involving the relations of belligerents and neutrals, such as the sinking of merchant ships, blockade in the sense which it bore before the present war and in the sense in which it is now being often employed, belligerent use of neutral flag, and the plotting of belligerent agents in neutral territory. All these are discussed in an interesting manner.

While the author insists that for the good of the world it is desirable and necessary that neutral rights should be defined and enforced, he is persuaded that that result can never be accomplished unless neutral nations are prepared to assert their rights and to enforce the assertion to the extent of joining in battle in vindication of the principles to which they are committed (p. 248). But though a champion of neutral rights, he is not a mere partisan, for he says the neutral must acquire the habit of putting itself in the place of the nation at war and seek to understand the difficulties it is trying to overcome — its motives — and the arguments by which it has convinced itself of the propriety of its action (p. 69).

The statement (p. 222) that Sir Walter Scott decided *The Boedes Lust*, 5 C. Rob. 245, is probably to be ascribed to the compositor.

JENS I. WESTENGARD.

THE SETTLEMENT OF ESTATES IN MASSACHUSETTS. By Guy Newhall. Boston: G. A. Jackson. 1915. pp. xxxi, 339.

The main part of this admirable little book deals with the powers and duties of executors and administrators in Massachusetts. We know of no clearer short account of these matters than is here given. A lawyer or layman who wishes to put an estate through the Massachusetts probate court will be helped at every step by this simple yet thorough guide. No attempt is made to cite more than the principal cases, but all the statutory references are given. Yet the book is not like many other manuals dealing with a particular jurisdiction, — a mere stringing together of paraphrased statutory sections. The problem that the deceased's representative must meet is stated, the way out explained, illustrations put to give life to the abstract principle, and finally the statutory reference cited. The latter part of the book deals very briefly with the making and revocation of wills, the duties of trustees, guardians, and conservators, and the settlement of estates of absentees. Every probate practitioner in the state will have use for Mr. Newhall's book. And the student of testamentary law in any part of the country will be helped by this short practical statement of the modern law of decedents' estates in one of the leading jurisdictions.

THE GROTIUS SOCIETY. PROBLEMS OF THE WAR. Volume 1, pp. 104. London: Sweet & Maxwell. 1916.

This volume contains a series of papers read before the Grotius Society, a society formed since the war to discuss questions of international law. The papers, intended as they are merely to promote discussion, are not exhaustive. They are interesting in suggesting some of the difficult problems developed in the present war. Considerable impartiality is shown. For instance, Sir Graham Bower condemns the treatment of the imprisoned submarine officers and